

CHAPTER 461

(Senate Bill 122)

AN ACT concerning

Crimes and Criminal Procedure – Victim and Witness Intimidation

FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from harming another, threatening to harm another, or damaging or destroying property with the intent to induce a victim or witness not to report the existence of facts relating to a crime or delinquent act; prohibiting solicitation of another person to harm another, threaten to harm another, or damage or destroy property with the intent to influence a victim or witness to testify falsely or withhold testimony or to induce a victim or witness to avoid service of a subpoena or summons to testify, to be absent from certain proceedings, or to not report the existence of facts relating to a crime or delinquent act; prohibiting a person from threatening to harm another with the intent of retaliating against a victim or witness for giving testimony in an official proceeding or for reporting a crime or delinquent act; prohibiting a person from soliciting another person to harm another, threaten to harm another, or damage or destroy property with the intent of retaliating against a victim or witness for giving testimony in an official proceeding or for reporting a crime or delinquent act; prohibiting a person, from trying by threat, force, or corrupt means, to influence, intimidate, or impede an officer of a court of the United States in the performance of the person's official duties; prohibiting a person from soliciting another person to ~~try~~, by threat, force, or corrupt means, try to influence, intimidate, or impede a juror, a witness, or an officer of a court of the State or of the United States in the performance of the person's official duties; increasing certain penalties; providing that if the testimony, subpoena, official proceeding, or report involving a victim or witness relates to a ~~felony~~ certain felony or crime of violence or a conspiracy or solicitation to commit such a crime, a person who violates certain provisions of this Act is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to a certain term of imprisonment; providing that certain sentences imposed under certain provisions of this Act may be separate from and consecutive to or concurrent with a sentence for certain other crimes; ~~providing that a certain juvenile court has jurisdiction over certain offenses;~~ ~~providing that certain statements made by certain victims or witnesses are not excluded in a judicial proceeding by the hearsay rule under certain circumstances;~~ and generally relating to crimes against victims and witnesses.

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~

~~Article—Courts and Judicial Proceedings~~

~~Section 3-8A-03(d)(4)(xvi) and (xvii)~~

~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

~~(2002 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)~~

~~BY adding to~~

~~Article—Courts and Judicial Proceedings~~